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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

25X1A2g

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

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DATE DISTR. 24 MAY 1949

SUBJECT Control and Training of Paramilitary
Bereitschaften in Berlin
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of the Interior for training. Command authority over the Abteilung Bereitschaften, however, is vested directly in the Soviet Sector Police President, Paul Markgraf. Markgraf, is directly subordinated to a Soviet agency headed by Colonel Zhukov (fnu) with offices in the Soviet Central Headquarters, Luisenstrasse.

2. Training directives issued by the GAI for paramilitary units in the Soviet Zone are not binding as directives, but only constitute training guides to be adapted to local Berlin conditions by the Police President. Final approval must be obtained from Colonel Zhukov.
3. In contradistinction to the training directives of the GAI, Berlin training directives endeavor to play down the military character of the paramilitary units. This is done on specific Soviet orders and presumably prompted by political considerations.
4. The relation between Markgraf and the GAI, as far as the control of the Bereitschaften is concerned, can best be characterized as strictly informatory. The GAI training directives are not sent to Markgraf's Police Praesidium, but are picked up informally at the GAI offices in Wilhelmsruh by a staff member of the Abteilung Bereitschaften. They are then studied by the Abteilung Bereitschaften and certain of the training subjects and features are embodied in the Berlin directives. Once a month the Abteilung Bereitschaften prepares a training progress report for the Hauptabteilung Grenz- und Bereitschaften-polizei of the GAI, with copies to the Central Komendatura for Col. Zhukov and to Police President Markgraf. The report contains an estimate of the status of preparedness for commitment of the paramilitary units. As annexes to these reports are attached tabulations of the training subjects planned for the month, a statistical analysis of the actual training performance, a statement as to how the training was accepted by the students, and finally a record of weapons firing for the month.
5. The Abteilung Bereitschaften draws its logistic support not from [REDACTED]

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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but from police headquarters, Russian Sector.

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Comment: Source is unable to state with certainty that the control of the Berlin Bereitschaften is lodged with Markgraf--and through him with the Central Komendatura, Berlin--to the exclusion of the German Administration of the Interior. It is believed, however, that sufficient evidence has been adduced to support such a conclusion. We are thus faced with a significant exception from the strictly pyramidal organizational plan for paramilitary police which obtains from the GAI down to the individual units in the Soviet Zone.)

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